

Inauguration ceremony of Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm held with splendour General Secretary Kim Jong Un attends the inauguration ceremony



KCNA

The unshakable will and outstanding leadership ability of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea hastening the bright future of the overall development of socialism through exciting transformation across the country are bringing about entities of prosperity as the eternal wealth of the people while

writing a new chapter in the history of legendary changes year after year.

At the time when the absolute trust in and single-hearted loyalty to the WPK, organizer and guide of all victories of the Korean people, are permeating the whole country advancing towards the glorious Party Congress, an ideal farming town with a group of the largest-ever greenhouses has been built on the banks

of the Amnok River in the northwestern tip of the country to greet the great auspicious event of inauguration.

Comrade Kim Jong Un unfolded a grand plan to turn the area of Wihwa Island, where only sand dust was flying about by the strong river wind due to yearly natural disasters, into a new model of regional development with great potential. He repeatedly visited the construction site to

give energetic guidance for the gigantic development of the area and led the new generation step by step to grow up to be reliable successors to the revolution who are strong in self-sustenance full of patriotic enthusiasm and confidence in their own strength in the course of the construction project.

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The Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm, a beautiful combination of well over a thousand modern greenhouses of different types, vegetable science research centre, modern houses, various bases for cultural life and distinctive landscape, is another proud monumental edifice witnessing the history of great changes in the era of Kim Jong Un and a proud gift of loyalty presented by the young builders to the Ninth Congress of the WPK.

An inauguration ceremony of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm was held with splendour on February 1.

The venue of the ceremony was filled with great pride and soaring spirit of the young vanguard and soldier-builders who demonstrated once again the validity of the WPK's policy on regional development and its practical executing ability and the inexhaustible strength and enthusiasm of the Korean youth through the completion of the modern large-scale greenhouse vegetable producer.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the ceremony.

When he arrived at the venue of the ceremony, stormy cheers of "Hurrah!"

burst out.

All the participants paid the highest tribute to the great father who opened up a new history of "Treasure Island", which will dynamically lead the regional economic development and the improvement of people's standard of living, after providing home of happiness full of the people's laughter in the disaster-stricken area of Wihwa Island by devoting himself to the people with ardent love for them.

Present at the ceremony were leading officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs and other members of the central leadership of the Party, soldier-builders, members of the youth shock brigade, officials and working people in North Phyongan Province and Sinuiju City, officials concerned and officials and employees of the farm.

Kim Chol Sam, chief secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK, addressed the ceremony.

He said that the honourable and worthwhile construction of the combined greenhouse farm started by the Party for the good of the people has been finally concluded to present the spectacular view of a record grand greenhouse group in a matter of a year. Today's inauguration is an epochal success symbolizing the eye-opening change of 2026 which will lead

to a vigorous advance toward greater goals, he added.

He extended warm thanks and congratulations, in reflection of the minds of all the people in the province, to the reliable youth shock brigade members and soldier-builders who successfully built the modern large farming town and presented it to the Ninth Congress of the WPK as a gift, following the proud course in which they demonstrated the honour of vanguard in the struggle for the prosperity of the state and the wellbeing of the people.

He noted that Comrade Kim Jong Un worked out a grand plan to build the largest-ever greenhouse farm at the time when it was regarded as a miracle to build thousands of flats and a solid embankment in the area hit by natural disaster. Kim Jong Un took every measure to provide the people in North Phyongan Province with the greenhouse farm, which made another leap forward in modernity, advanced nature and profitability as well as the architectural level compared with the already-built greenhouse farms, and visited the construction site several times to correct the shortcomings as he energetically led the whole course of pioneering and creation, he added.

The young builders could build the leading large greenhouse farm in a short

span of time with the indomitable spirit of overcoming difficulties and iron mettle and fighting spirit as the warm paternal affection of the benevolent teacher and dear father, who entrusted the whole construction of the greenhouse farm prioritized by the Party to the People's Army and young people and glorified the life of the patriotic youth, served as unbounded vital energies for struggle and inexhaustible strength for creating miracles, he said.

The sacred cause of regional development guided by the WPK is turning even barren land into a paradise and bringing earlier the people's long-cherished desire into a great reality, the speaker said, ardently calling on the all the participants to work more courageously, advance more bravely and shape a more beautiful future true to the noble intention of the Party for the good of the people.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a meaningful congratulatory speech.

In his speech he said:

"All of us now stand facing a great transformation, something that amazes even ourselves.

"Do we have to use any other impressive expression or explanation to describe what we are seeing here?"

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“We are witnessing the reality that needs no long explanation or expression.

“This was where the local residents had suffered from flooding generation after generation, regarding it as their fate, and it is protected by a solid dam that would resist even the heaviest flooding on record. I am very happy and pleased that this has become a base for their new life, which they will work cheerfully to build up.

“Our younger generation has proudly achieved a new transformation that is as beautiful as their youth and as honourable as their reputation.

“Since the day when they committed themselves to the worthwhile, gigantic nature-remaking project, our soldiers and young people have devoted their youthful wisdom and enthusiasm to developing a precious part of their country; in doing so,

they have also displayed their unshakable faith in socialism, confidence about the future and love for the country, thereby creating wealth from which our people will benefit for all ages.

“Our young revolutionaries have chronicled a priceless struggle against the rigours of the construction project by displaying their dauntless courage and fervent zeal. But for their invaluable struggle we could hardly find ourselves standing in front of this great monumental structure today.

“Our soldiers and young people have made a wonderful achievement of creation to be presented to the Ninth Party Congress, and thus proved again that they are fully qualified to be called the most powerful elite force and vanguard of our revolution.

“The youthful vigour and warm sincerity, which have been passionately devoted to every inch of the expansive

area of the island, will be remembered forever as an imprint of their priceless patriotic effort, and this will be rightfully etched in the history of our great state.

“Availing myself of this significant opportunity, I express my respect, and send my best wishes on behalf of the country and people, to our dependable officers and soldiers and our young people for the patriotism and fidelity which they, as the main force of the gigantic construction struggle, have displayed in performing heroic feats with loyalty to the Party and the revolution and accelerating the dynamic onward advance of the times.

“Along with the patriotic march of our proud builders for both today and tomorrow, our brave pioneers, the land of our country will be richer and more beautiful, and our ideals and determination will surely result in achieving steady advance and victory.

“I once again express my heartfelt

thanks to all of you.

“This year, too, you should make redoubled efforts for our future that will always remain bright with the vigour of young Koreans, and also for the great era of transformation and prosperity.

“In conclusion, I wish all the residents a happy life and offer congratulations once again on the inauguration of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm.”

When Kim Jong Un finished his speech, all the participants raised enthusiastic cheers, looking up to the great teacher and dear father who takes loving care of all his children and brings them up to be heroes of the times.

He cut the inauguration tape.

Fireworks were set off at the venue of the ceremony filled with deep reverence for the great Party Central Committee and great passion, beautifully decorating the

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sky in February.

Soldier-builders presented fragrant bouquets to Kim Jong Un out of boundless reverence and absolute loyalty.

He then visited the Sinuiju Vegetable Science Research Centre.

When he arrived, thunderous cheers rang out rocking heaven and earth.

Members of the youth shock brigade presented fragrant bouquets to him reflecting the unanimous gratitude and invariable will of succession of the young vanguard across the country.

He warmly waved his hand to give encouragement to the young vanguard who wrote a heroic biography of great changes in the northwestern tip of the country and presented immortal dignity and glory to the Congress of the motherly Party by responding to the call of the Party, the people and the revolution with revolutionary advance and courage and mettle peculiar to the brave and passionate youth.

There was a ceremony to commemorate the inauguration.

Kim Jong Un cut the inauguration tape.

He went round the Sinuiju Vegetable Science Research Centre together with leading officials.

He highly appreciated the scientific research group for greatly lowering production costs and consumption and making big profits through introduction of an intelligent integrated production system and valuable recycling technologies conducive to realizing the integration of management and production of the greenhouse farm.

Saying that the Sinuiju vegetable science research base has a very important duty to carry out in radically increasing the production of greenhouse vegetables of the country, he stressed the need for the base to properly play its role as an academic guidance unit and scientific research centre that conducts scientific research into vegetables and also provides nationwide technical service related to the growing of greenhouse vegetables.

In order to increase the production of greenhouse vegetables, it is needed to raise the scientific level of cultivation and closely combine the scientific research into vegetables with production and actively introduce advanced technology and experience gained in the process into all greenhouse farms in the country to steadily expand the

successes, he said.

It is the intention of the WPK to overtake the world not only in the size of greenhouse but also in the method of greenhouse vegetable cultivation, building up of technical foundations and output and thus make the people benefit from it as soon as possible, he said. And he clarified a series of tasks arising in the operation of greenhouse and scientific research into vegetables, including the issue of taking thorough scientific and technological measures for ensuring the quality, taste and nutritive value of greenhouse vegetables at a high level, the issue of directing efforts to widely spreading vegetable seeds of good varieties and the issue of establishing a national organization for unified guidance over and management of many greenhouses built across the country.

He met scientists and technicians who made contributions to the construction of the farm and officials of the central and field headquarters and had a photo session with them.

He went round various types of greenhouse buildings including solar-heated greenhouse where fish farming is combined with vegetable cultivation.

Seeing the water tank full of fish, the floating cultivation frame where lettuce and nutritive cabbage grow green and the sea of vegetables with various varieties of crops including tomatoes, red peppers and cucumbers, he said with pleasure that it is, indeed, a spectacular sight.

He said that the main thing in greenhouse vegetable production is a seed problem and that the farm should steadily push forward with the breeding of different varieties of vegetable seeds and modernization of equipment as a constant task.

We are now undergoing an important transformation process for the radical changes of regions, he said, stressing that the construction of the farm is one of the hugest projects carried out during the eighth term of the WPK Central Committee and a precious asset for prosperity showing the rapid development of the present times in which struggles are being waged for epochal changes across the country with high goals and ideals.

Even a single blade of turf or a single tree in the farm is permeated with ardent love for the country of our service personnel and the youth and their spirit of devotedly implementing the Party's policies, he said, giving an instruction

on officially commending exemplary service personnel and young builders and conducting the work for reviewing and evaluating them on a large scale.

There was a ceremony of unveiling the Monument to the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm.

Kim Jong Un unveiled the monument, heartily wishing that the farm would contribute to the economic development of the region and the improvement of the people's material life.

Lovely children presented him with bouquets of fragrant flowers reflecting the unanimous gratitude of the people in North Phyongan Province.

Kim Jong Un warmly wished the local people wellbeing and a bright future to be more civilized and richer.

That day, he had a photo session with the soldier-builders and young vanguard members involved in the construction of the farm.

All the participants fervently cheered with great reverence for him who put forward the army and young people in the vanguard of the gigantic construction struggle to transform a part of the country and led their revolutionary growth with loving care by repeatedly visiting the place for guidance.

Kim Jong Un extended warm encouragement to the officers and men of the army and young builders, who successfully turned the island area into an ideal farming town in the new era with their ardent patriotic enthusiasm and labour efforts, cherishing the Party's grand plan and decision for regional development as the absolute truth.

He said that the eye-opening changes in the area of Wihwa Island are a living proof of the WPK's people-first policy and a proud record of the times on the undying feats and honourable achievements of the army and the youth who firmly support the cause of the Party with miracles of creation.

He said with pride that it is the strength and the highest pride of our Party, state and people that cannot be compared with anything else in the world to have successors to the revolution, a large contingent of genuine youth patriots who regard the life devoted to the prosperity of the country as the greatest honour and seek the worth and happiness of youth in the struggle for creating the people's wealth.

He stressed that the farm is another monument to the great struggle to go down forever in the sacred history of the Korean youth movement and a symbol

of the valuable feats of the heroic youth in the new era, adding that the Korean revolution would be ever-victorious thanks to the reliable successors who have always been faithful to their mission and duty of the times with firm faith in and ardent aspiration for socialism.

He expressed expectations and belief that the youth, officers and soldiers would redouble their youthful strength, enthusiasm, wisdom and courage and more bravely and energetically struggle for the bright future of the state that will be more powerful and beautiful and the honour of the Korean youth.

When the photo session was over, all the young builders loudly chanted slogans calling for devotedly defending the Party Central Committee and implementing the Party's policies, bearing deeper in their mind the immutable truth that the worthwhile life of youth and the brilliant happiness of all generations to come are on the road of remaining single-heartedly loyal to the ideology and leadership of Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un hoped that he would meet with the admirable young builders in Pyongyang again, saying that the Ninth Congress of the glorious motherly Party is waiting for them who will enter in a dignified manner the capital city of the great state with labour gifts of loyalty.

Greatly encouraged by the warm loving care, trust and true heart of the great father, the young vanguard members and soldier-builders pledged to perform bigger miracles and labour feats in a new record book of struggle of 2026, upholding the Party's long-cherished desire with more persistent and dynamic labour efforts and miracles of creation.

Going round modern greenhouses, the vegetable science research centre, various bases for cultural life and other places of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm where landscaping has been realized on a high level, the participants in the inauguration ceremony deeply grasped the standard of creation and the height of civilization set by the Party.

The inauguration of the farm serves as a significant occasion confirming the belief in the invincibility and rosy future of the DPRK's cause and struggle and strikingly demonstrating the irresistible might of socialist Korea advancing dynamically while bringing earlier the gigantic transformation in the regions under the uplifted banner of self-reliance.



Samgwang Livestock Farm completed as new model of socialist rural construction in new era and livestock farming development

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un makes historic speech in commemoration of inauguration of Samgwang Livestock Farm



development of the socialist countryside is a proud fruition of the noble devotion of Comrade Kim Jong Un who is confidently shaping a bright future of Korean-style socialism with his

All the participants raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up with deep emotion at Comrade Kim Jong Un, the benevolent father of all the people who steadily gives a facelift to all the rural areas across the country so that they can change and thrive, while making an endless journey of devotion day and night with burning love for the country and the people.

KCNA

The rural areas across the DPRK are undergoing changes one after another to present new scenery of civilization all the year round, thanks to the steady implementation of the programme for the rural revolution in the new era set forth by the Workers' Party of Korea. Against this backdrop, Samgwang-ri of Unjon County in North Phyongan Province has turned into a modern livestock farming base and beautiful and ideal socialist land to greet the auspicious moment of its inauguration.

in rows adding to the sentiments peculiar to the countryside in the beautiful villages, alongside different branch farms, processing grounds, rearing blocks, cultural and welfare facilities, a solar power station, office building, hall of culture, kindergarten, school, hospital, pharmacy and other public buildings which stand in ideal harmony. They are all impeccable in terms of architectural beauty. The fascinating livestock farm is a proud model of the times, which set a new standard of socialist rural construction and the development of the livestock farming.

outstanding ideas, theories and energetic leadership and another clear proof of the validity and vitality of the WPK's policy on rural construction.

An inauguration ceremony of the Samgwang Livestock Farm under the North Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee, built as a model of socialist rural construction in the new era and development of livestock farming, was held with splendour on February 2.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the ceremony.

Present at the ceremony were leading officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs and other members of the central leadership of the Party, officials and working people of North Phyongan Province and Unjon County and employees of the farm.

Kim Jong Un made a historic speech in commemoration of the inauguration of the Samgwang Livestock Farm.

At this Samgwang Livestock Farm to be inaugurated today, we are seeing another unique development of the socialist countryside aspiring to advancement and

Distinctive modern houses are standing

The eye-opening transformation in the Samgwang area clearly showing the rapid

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modernity, he said, adding this is a new standard and epitome clearly showing the height of transformation and level of change we want to reach.

He referred to the purpose and important significance of the construction of the Samgwang Livestock Farm, which was started to create a new starting point and innovative criterion conducive to defining a future development orientation of the countryside and livestock farming in the light of the lessons drawn from the rural construction in the past.

Just this Samgwang-ri clearly indicates the prospect of the socialist rural development we are going to attain, he said, noting that what we have to do is

revolution and the development of animal husbandry in the new era.

Upon authorization of Kim Jong Un, Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet, cut the inauguration tape.

Kim Jong Un extended warm congratulations to the local residents who came to lead a blessed life in the wonderful place transformed into a socialist paradise.

He, together with leading officials, went round the first branch of the Samgwang Livestock Farm, protected cultivation ground, dairy products production ground, etc.

Enjoying the gratifying sight of milch cows and goats of good breeds being raised, he said that the main thing in livestock farming is also breed and referred

approach to rearing, comprehensive veterinary services and IT-based and intelligent production and management, the farm should direct big efforts to improving the quality of products while lowering the production costs by optimizing and upgrading technical management, management of equipment, raising and tending and feed management and thus ensure that the validity and vitality of the WPK's policy on livestock farming are proved by clear production growth in the future, too.

Saying that scientific animal husbandry precisely means the increased production of livestock products, he stressed that the farm should steadily usher in a new phase of development of livestock farming and make uninterrupted innovations and

habit of developing competitively while exchanging experience among major livestock farms.

He said that like this farm, modern and industrialized elements are now being positively introduced into rural areas and that it is necessary to actively encourage such trend and make it a policy. He noted that it is the expansion and intensification of the programme for the rural revolution in the new era to develop the country's animal husbandry in a specialized way, including the integration of the production system of the farms, the increase in veterinary medicine production and the establishment of a new stockbreeding information technology research unit, and clarified the ways for its implementation.

He learned about the dairy product



to expand the experience and successes we have gained in the course of building the farm, and thus put rural development onto a new qualitative transformation stage. He specified different tasks to be tackled in implementing the socialist rural development policy and definitely turning the livestock farming of the country into a modern one of the world level.

When Kim Jong Un finished his speech, all the participants raised enthusiastic cheers with great emotion and out of joy of receiving the immortal guidelines indicating the clear policy for the expanded implementation of the WPK's programme for the rural

to the need to establish a nationwide system of supplying superior breeds and conduct the work of preserving pedigrees in a scientific way.

He said that it is necessary to positively introduce such advanced livestock farming technologies as that of making the system of managing individual animals like cow, goat and sheep and others intelligent and constantly perfect the Korean-style livestock production system and IT system.

He said: In line with the intention of the Party which set as the five key factors in developing livestock farming superior breeds, sufficient feed, a scientific

continuous advance, regarding it as a priority task to bolster up the scientific and technological forces in production, management and operation.

The Samgwang Livestock Farm should become a standard-bearer advancing in the vanguard of the whole country under the uplifted banner in implementing the Party's policy on animal husbandry, he said, giving precious instructions for the management and control of the farm including the issues of steadily developing the technology for recycling waste, creating new standards in the analysis and control of quality and the issue of promoting and expanding the

production at the farm.

Appreciating that the farm is ensuring a stable production environment and profitability through the introduction of an intelligent dairy product production system based on the virtual physical production system, he said that lots of good experiences conducive to putting production lines on an intelligent and IT basis have recently been created and that this work should be constantly developed purposefully.

Having a taste of a dairy product, he said that it is not inferior to the products made

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in the capital city and it rather seems to taste better than them and that it is very great for the unknown farm to mass-produce 10-odd kinds of dairy products such as butter, cheese, milk powder and yogurt. He added that he feels great pride to think that such excellent dairy products would be supplied to the children and people.

Enjoying the picturesque panorama of the farm including modern rural dwelling houses, he said with pleasure that it is really wonderful and it is a serene landscape displaying a sentiment peculiar to the region and that the Samgwang Livestock Farm is a model creation which can proudly represent the socialist

countryside in the new era and an ideal modern farm that can stand comparison with a town.

Noting that to build up all the rural villages of the country in such a way that they maintain the flavour of Korean-style socialism and clearly preserve the characteristics of the relevant regions is a strategically important plan to which the Party attaches importance in order to provide the rural population with good living environment and achieve the overall development of the country, he said that when modern villages boasting unique architectural beauty are built in rural areas year after year, not only the living environment of the agricultural workers but also their level of ideological consciousness and civilization will change

remarkably along with the appearance of the country.

Calling for building the rural villages of the country to be prominent in all aspects, so that they can be recognized as flawless in any place and even in the distant future, he expressed his unshakable will to more powerfully and confidently propel the overall rural development of the country.

Saying that a model entity for greenhouse vegetable production was built in the area of Wihwa Island and a new standard of development of animal husbandry was set in the Samgwang area, he noted it is the traditional Korean-style development mode and law governing development to create a model first and generalize it to the whole country. When this is well embodied in an organic manner in the construction of rural villages and regions, more epochal progress will be made in the implementation of the Party's programme for the rural revolution in the new era and its regional development policy, he added.

He stressed the need to further heighten the sense of mission and responsibility for the revolutionary cause, bolster self-confidence and redouble efforts to

intensify state guidance over rural and regional construction, promote sustained development and ensure state investment and support and thus make the Party's rural construction policy and regional development policy become a historical review adding a proud chapter to the nation-building history.

Looking round the smart and cosy modern rural dwellings, rearing blocks, dairy product-producing ground and educational and leisure facilities, members of the central leadership of the Party were assured of the rosier future of the socialist countryside that will prosper with each passing day under the outstanding guidance of Kim Jong Un and renewed their pledge to more creditably fulfill their duty in implementing the Party's policies.

The inauguration of the Samgwang Livestock Farm marked an epochal turn of great significance in strikingly demonstrating the ambition and executive power of the WPK, which is transforming all the rural villages of the country into the ideal socialist ones good to live and work in, and putting the country's animal husbandry on an advanced basis.





Comrade Kim Jong Un's speech at the inauguration ceremony of the Samgwang Livestock Farm

Leading cadres of the Party and government and members of the Party central leadership, who are present here,

Comrades,

At this Samgwang Livestock Farm to be inaugurated today, we are seeing another unique development of the socialist countryside aspiring to advancement and modernity.

As all of you would feel while looking round it, the landscape that has completely changed the long-standing understanding of mountain village and rural life would be really impressive.

I think it is important on this occasion that we must renew our will and re-set on site the height of transformation, the level of change, we want to reach.

Whatever we do, we should do as we have done with this one.

This is the standard and epitome of a new change.

Have a look.

This far-flung village in Unjon County, which had nothing from of old to present other than a beautiful landscape and centuries-old rural backwardness, has been transformed into a standard entity, a blueprint, that enables us to visualize the future of modern countryside and modern stockbreeding. This is what we are seeing now.

We can say this is just a real transformation.

This Samgwang Livestock Farm, showcasing the developmental change in the countryside, constitutes another proud record and asset and wonderful creation, which highlights an aspect of the work of the Eighth Party Central Committee as much as a new large-scale greenhouse farm or leading electricity-generation base in terms of importance and significance.

First of all, I offer thanks to the builders of North Phyongan Province and scientists, technicians and officials of several sectors, who contributed to developing this unknown Samgwang-ri into an excellent model of socialist rural construction in faithful support of the rural revolution programme in the new era, which aims at the correct development of our state's agriculture and countryside.

And I extend warm greetings to all the agricultural workers of the Samgwang Livestock Farm and their families, who have settled down for a happy life earlier than others in the ideal village of civilization and rejuvenation that all other rural communities will surely greet before long.

Comrades,

This scenery of Samgwang-ri that has undergone transformation without giving much publicity is not something that has suddenly been created in a few years.

As is the case with the birth of everything new, painstaking efforts were made for this project, which was not all plain sailing.

To provide our people with the happiest life is the long-cherished desire of our Party. As a priority target to this end, the Party planned and gave assignments some years ago for the construction of a modern and standard livestock farm specializing in the production of dairy produce.

This project encompassed introduction of much advanced livestock farming technology and methods suited to our reality and presenting a completely new appearance of the modern countryside, even from its concept and implementation methods, going beyond the bounds of landscaping and building houses and public facilities as farms in various parts of the country are doing now. It demanded that we should not rely on the conventional ideas and precedents even from the designing stage.

Because of the deep-rooted habit of clinging to what are conventional and multiple challenges that faced us when we began to transform this farm, we had to renew the detailed targets and designs and repeat the building work accordingly on several occasions even when the project was underway full steam ahead.

We made such great efforts to transform this one farm never to build in a place of the country an object for publicity or tour, but to create a new starting point, innovative criterion, conducive to defining a future development orientation of our countryside and our livestock farming.

Of course, there are still some parts which require more efforts and something which should be done in order to perfectly modernize the Samgwang Livestock Farm.

However, the present reality will be enough to show the real purpose of the construction of this farm and its result, I think.

As I have mentioned above, it is important to create a proper standard, and whatever we plan and implement, we must get out of the habit of doing everything in an unscientific and slipshod way and without a clear standard.

For the successful attainment of the goal of this trial project, I assigned it to a major department of the Party Central Committee and got it to oversee the project; the department carried out the assignment correctly.

The Samgwang Livestock Farm is a model of modern farm village and modern livestock farming, immaculate in all aspects.

It can be said that this farm has smashed the traditional concept of animal husbandry, crop farming and rural village that had long been regarded as a matter of course.

As it is put on a highly IT, intelligent, intensive and industrial footing, the farm is incomparably superior to other livestock farming bases that rank top in the country now.

Gone forever are the days when it was regarded as normal for the keepers to climb mountains and graze animals, rain or shine.

This farm has introduced the method of raising goats and milch cows indoors to produce milk regardless of the seasonal change while economizing on labour and area. The keepers correctly conduct tending of each animal, like feeding and anti-epizootic work, in a scientific, technological and industrial way while operating the control system in modern animal sheds. And all the milch cows and goats are of superior breeds.

In addition, milking, conveying and processing lines are fully automated; feed processing and production and most of the other lines are done as they are at an industrial factory; and this farm has also a modern stockbreeding research branch. I think all these are most ideal for increased production and the development of stockbreeding technology.

This is the first farm in the sector of raising grass-eating domestic animals to achieve the definite integration of science and technology with production and realization of a food production cycle based on animal husbandry and crop farming and the establishment of an intelligent integrated production system capable of real-time monitoring, analyzing and controlling the state of production and management activities to suit its characteristics as a livestock farm.

These advantages constitute a factor favourable for promoting transformation of the agricultural workers on a working class pattern and improvement of their advanced and cultured level, which we always regard as an important task in resolving the rural and farmer problems.

As all the elements of modernization of livestock farming have been realized on an unprecedentedly high level, this will soon become a profitable farm, whose increase in revenue and improvement of employees' living standards based on high productivity are harmoniously combined with national interests.

At present, we can say that we built the Kwangchon Chicken Farm as a model of our country's poultry farming a few years ago, and that we have built this Samgwang Livestock Farm as a model of raising of grass-eating domestic animals.

I am really happy that this farm will uninterruptedly produce cheese, butter and other dairy produce, which

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were inconceivable at the farm, to contribute to the dietary life of our people, the children in particular.

Samgwang-ri, a modernized livestock farming base, is an exemplary and ideal rural community furnished with all the functions and criteria as a regional unit equal to one-4 000th of the country in area.

To say nothing of the seat of Samgwang-ri, where sections for education and leisure activities and residential quarters are distributed in an orderly way, the buildings of all branch farms and workteams and processing places have been built to be perfect in architectural aesthetics and suitable for their functions and purposes. All these features serve as a wonderful textbook for the urbanization of the countryside and the civilization of mountain villages.

Flawless are such public facilities as school, kindergarten, hospital, pharmacy, shop, hall of culture and neighbourhood-serving amenities.

The farm has also set an example in creating an ecological environment and in landscaping.

It is the correct implementation of the Party's policy that the bare land in all sections except the land under cultivation has been carpeted with cover plants in harmony with good species of trees.

Afforestation and water conservation have been carried out to cover the mountains with thick forests and turn the shores of the reservoir and river into places, into distinctive parks, for recreational activities and power-generating facilities relying on renewable energy have been set up. Such is a view of Samgwang-ri, which even a painter with outstanding imagination can hardly portray in his work.

Embodied in every element and every corner of this farm are the policy-oriented requirements to transplant the advanced and modern qualities into the countryside. Indeed, as a comprehensive model of rural transformation, the farm clearly indicates the ideals and goal of socialist rural construction at the present stage.

Comrades,

The eye-opening appearance of this transformed farm teaches us something very great.

The significance is not confined to the transformation of a mountainous farm; what is more significant is that it has opened the way to transformation and development suited to the specific features of the regions and farms and boosts their self-confidence, ambition and courage.

The transformation in Samgwang, which has completely changed the concepts of production mode, working life and rural civilization, clearly indicates what we should do in the future and on which level we should do them.

What I make clear here is that we do not intend to confine ourselves to putting forward and giving publicity to this rural area as we did in the past with some exemplary units, but to fundamentally transform all the rural communities across the country with this area as the origin and starting point.

To this end, we have to duly realize once again why our rural areas are yet to be freed from impoverishment even though, from a historical point of view, many Party's policies on rural problems have been advanced and the struggle to carry out the socialist rural theses has been conducted for over half a century.

Frankly speaking, it is no exaggeration to say that we

paid lip service to rural construction in the past.

To take a typical example in this regard, each province has done nothing other than face-lifting a few rural villages in a symbolic way.

A policy that is hardly possible to be executed is nothing other than an empty theory; is it a viable policy?

The state investment in, and assistance to, the countryside has been conducted in a sporadic, temporary and showy way; this is another mistake made in rural construction.

Officials have pushed forward with rural construction without any correct goal, standard and methodology.

In particular, they have failed to take effective measures for raising in a sustainable way agricultural productivity, a key and basic task in rural construction, and consolidating stage by stage the material and technical foundations of the countryside.

To speak about livestock farming, the slogan for obtaining meat from grass was raised already in the postwar period and a fuss has been made about solving without delay the problem of meat and eggs by building large-scale livestock farming bases in different parts of the country, but none has paid off.

Ten years have passed since a livestock farming base was built in the Sepho area, but it is the same case with it.

The livestock farming sector, virtually devoid of the technology for developing superior breeds, has not established a proper system of breeding nor has it done as it should the work of preserving and supplementing the superiority of these breeds.

Complaining about the lack of grain fodder and protein fodder, the sector has not buckled down to solving the fodder problem; the result is that every province fails to meet the elementary demand owing to the lack of fodder though they have several livestock farming bases with a large production capacity.

Our struggle goal for rural construction cannot be attained simply by means of any rhetoric or high-sounding slogans. It can be attained through our uninterrupted efforts for substantial and sustainable development and transformation in agricultural productivity, rural environment and the agricultural workers' living.

We have no time to be engaged in empty talk any longer. We must struggle steadily and bring about transformation continuously so as to create without fail changed environment and improved entities.

To make the members of the central leadership of the Party accept this idea by seeing the actual object and reality—this is why I have come here with them.

Comrades,

Since the rural revolution programme in the new era was advanced, a new history of transformation has been opened and a number of conspicuous successes have been achieved in our countryside.

Rural housing construction has been conducted for three successive years, with the result that modern villages have sprung up in all cities and counties and changes have begun to be made in all realms including grain production structure, mechanization, irrigation, farming methods and the level of ideological consciousness and civilization of the agricultural workers.

As the implementation of the regional development policy is underway full steam and in a simultaneous way, the socio-economic conditions for promoting and backing up the development and rejuvenation of the

countryside are becoming more matured and enriched.

But, we should not think that we can carry out as we planned the historic tasks of our rural revolution by continuing to do as we are doing now.

Just this Samgwang-ri clearly indicates the prospect of the socialist rural development we are going to attain.

What we have to do from now on is to expand and develop the experience and successes we have gained in the course of building the Samgwang Livestock Farm, and thus put rural development onto a new qualitative transformation stage.

Only when the agricultural workers enjoy all the benefits of modern science and technology and civilization in all realms, can we say that the goal of the rural revolution programme in the new era has been attained and the socialist rural development policy has succeeded in the true sense of the word.

Therefore at the present stage, we should launch a vigorous struggle to transform all the rural communities across the country in all realms of construction of houses and education, public health and leisure facilities, land administration and eco-environmental protection, to say nothing of agricultural production, as we have done in Samgwang-ri.

A major hallmark of the modern countryside can be said to be the modernization, informatization and industrialization of agriculture.

It is necessary to readjust and fully improve the land, roads, irrigation facilities and the electric supply system, which are directly linked to agricultural production, in a neat and efficient way, step up the comprehensive mechanization of farm operations in keeping with the topographical features, and actively introduce into them the automation and AI technology.

Now that the enthusiasm for scientific farming prevails in the whole country and it has become an actual task to apply IT to farm work, farms should follow the road of establishing a network infrastructure and scientific management system for agricultural production.

They should also build workteam buildings, greenhouses and other bases for production activities, production facilities, in a neat way and make them multifunctional.

Another major hallmark of the modern countryside is its urbanized, civilized and advanced characters.

At present, dwelling houses and public buildings are being built in rural communities in cities and counties across the country every year, but it can be said to be just the beginning, if they are to be built genuinely as nicely as those in urban areas.

We should properly form farm village sections in keeping with the relevant regional features, construct all the buildings and other elements to suit the modern aesthetic sense, and actively transplant the essential elements of cultured living, which have so far been regarded as part of civilization only in urban areas, into rural areas, so as to reduce the gap between towns and the countryside.

We are going to modernize rural areas with an eye to promoting the convenience of the agricultural workers as much as possible and enabling them to substantially enjoy modern civilization; therefore, we should ensure perfect quality of all buildings and other creations.

To this end, provinces, cities and counties should direct

SEE PAGE 10

efforts into building up design and construction forces that are indispensable to rural construction, increasing the proportion of construction work done by machines, and expanding the capacity for producing building materials.

Even if the working conditions and living environment improve, it does not mean that the level of ideological awareness, technical qualifications and civilization of the people will go up of their own accord.

As our Party consistently stresses, we should keep stepping up the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—to make agricultural workers full-fledged masters of the modern countryside and the driving force of the rural revolution, who are prepared ideologically, spiritually, culturally and technologically.

In other words, we should transform them on a revolutionary and working-class pattern and make them well versed in science and technology.

The departments of the Party Central Committee, ministries, national agencies and design and other relevant sectors should intensify guidance and assistance for rural development from the standpoint of building up all farms in a modern style like the Samgwang Livestock Farm.

By doing so, we should accomplish the historic cause of turning all the rural communities into rich and civilized socialist paradise, ideal land good to work and live in, in our generation without fail.

We should definitely transform the country's animal husbandry into a modern one of the world level.

Our Party and state have so far built a large number of livestock farming bases and put much effort to them in order to amply supply our people with meat, eggs and milk, but with the present low level and weak foundations it is impossible to meet the people's qualitative and quantitative needs, and yet it is all the more difficult to bring animal husbandry up to the world standard.

Today, however, we have gained confidence, and the future is promising.

There is no need for us to have a faint hope or heave a sigh, comparing ours to the developed animal husbandry of other countries.

We have already built by ourselves a model of modern animal husbandry attaining the world level, and in the course of this we have accumulated precious experience and drawn valuable lessons.

Our Party already set superior breeds, sufficient feed, a scientific approach to rearing and comprehensive veterinary services as four key factors in developing livestock farming, and has worked to this end. We should add to these factors the making of production and management informatized and intelligent.

The reality of the Samgwang Livestock Farm shows that no one can discuss about the world level unless production and management of such farms are made informatized and intelligent, even if they are equipped with the elements essential for the development of animal husbandry.

That is why all the units in the animal husbandry sector should go in the direction of establishing an intelligent production system by combining modern information means and equipment with overall processes and elements of livestock farming like the Samgwang

Livestock Farm.

In a word, the livestock farming sector should set the new five key factors as the basic direction for putting animal husbandry on a modern and advanced footing.

It is a prerequisite for the development of animal husbandry to steadily secure animals of superior breeds.

The breeding sector and production units should introduce advanced techniques and methods to develop and propagate good breeds of domestic animals, whose milk and meat are of high quality and which are highly productive, and establish a strict system for preserving pedigree breeds for preventing them from being degenerated.

Fodder supply is as important as the issue of breeds in developing animal husbandry.

Now is the time for us to take the road of solving the issue of fodder by intensive and industrial methods.

We should improve grass fields effectively, cultivate grasses of high nutritive value, and raise the proportion of mechanization in the management of grass fields so as to boost their productivity.

We should also adopt intensive and industrial methods in the cultivation of grasses and fodder processing, including the introduction of continuous production of grasses in their cultivation grounds and various fodder production techniques according to the breeds of domestic animals, seasons and the individual animals.

In the past it was regarded as a traditional concept that there must be pastures and roads in order to raise grass-eating domestic animals on a large scale. Now is the time for us to boldly get rid of this convention.

In view of the situation of our country with a limited area of grass fields and the global development trend of animal husbandry, it is profitable to encourage and expand the raising of animals indoors.

I have already mentioned this at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party.

In doing so, we can drastically increase the number of domestic animals per keeper and raise them in a scientific, intensive and specialized way.

In keeping with the introduction of indoor raising methods and the developing level of intensive production, the livestock farming units should pay close attention to developing the technologies of treating and reusing the excrement, so as to prevent environmental pollution and perfect the food production cycle of animal husbandry and crop farming.

The reality, in which livestock farming is being put on an intensive and industrial footing, makes a higher demand on the anti-epizootic work.

These days, not a few epidemic diseases are spreading worldwide, threatening livestock farming. Our country, too, has suffered a considerable damage from them. By drawing a lesson from this and with a view that anti-epizootic work equates to production, we should decisively raise the level of modernization and scientification of disinfecting imported domestic animals and take scientific and strict anti-epizootic measures in livestock farming units.

In addition, we should integrate the livestock production and processing, increase the range of dairy produce and processed meat, and thoroughly guarantee their quality.

From this angle, the basic orientation of our livestock farming is to develop specialized livestock farming on an IT, intelligent, intensive and industrial basis.

The livestock production at farms and individual

households play a considerable part as much as specialized livestock farming units do in fully satisfying the demand for livestock products. Therefore, we should proactively encourage these kinds of livestock farming and apply scientific raising and tending methods to them to the maximum.

We should take economic and practical measures nationwide to improve the role of stockbreeding science and education sectors and research units, develop and produce a large number of modern machines for livestock farming, and provide a sustainable driving force to the efforts for reenergizing livestock farming.

It is important to direct much effort to building up the ranks of technical personnel, the most essential and strategic resource for the development of livestock farming, while further reinforcing the systems for the guidance over and sci-tech dissemination for the country's livestock farming and adjusting irrational spaces and elements with regard to this.

It is necessary to effectively organize the work of introducing and propagating across the country the experience and successes gained in modernizing the Samgwang Livestock Farm.

There are livestock farms in provinces which were built scores of years ago and livestock farming bases which have been newly built. It will be a good idea for all of them to come here to learn from this farm and make a fresh start in keeping with their specific situations.

If we build profitable livestock farming bases in succession in all provinces by drawing on the experience of building this farm wonderfully and thus give a spur to modernizing the country's livestock farming, it will develop by leaps and bounds.

In this way we can set the goal of supplying all the time milk, butter, cheese and other dairy produce of various kinds and processed meat to all the population, to say nothing of not only children but also primary and middle school students.

Comrades,

We are now confident in and fully optimistic about the development of the countryside and livestock farming, but it will not be easy at all to achieve it.

However, we should regard this as something we must do by all means.

As you see firsthand the changes in the countryside in the run-up to the Party Congress, all of you attending this ceremony should boost your confidence and harden your common will to open a new chapter of socialist rural construction.

Officials should fully discharge their duty and role in the efforts for developing livestock farming and the countryside. By doing so, they can make this ceremony an important occasion and a new, powerful starting point in expanding and stepping up the rural revolution in the new era.

Workers of the Samgwang Livestock Farm,

You will be the first in our country to enjoy the benefits of modernized countryside.

I am convinced that the workers and officials of the farm will continue to elevate their pride in having written a new chapter of transformation in the chronicles of their region into an unexcelled patriotic zeal and work hard for a greater development and prosperity of their native place and for a rosier future of their posterity.

I wish all the families in Samgwang-ri only pleasure and happiness in their dear place which will prosper forever and become more beautiful.

National photo exhibition opens

KCNA

A national photo exhibition, "Under the uplifted banner of self-reliance", was opened in celebration of the 84th birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

On display there are photos dealing with the immortal exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The photos tell about the history of the revolutionary leadership of Kim Jong Il who kindled the torch of the revolutionary advance in the new century and the flames of a new upsurge throughout the country.

Among the photos are those showing the devoted efforts of the Chairman who continued a high-intensity forced march for field guidance with his faith and will to make the country prosperous and the people well-off.

Displayed at the venue of the exhibition are also photos dealing with the exploits of Kim Jong Un who is translating the patriotic desire of the Chairman into a brilliant reality.

The photos show the personality traits as a peerlessly great man of Kim Jong Un who is ushering in a new era of comprehensive prosperity while firmly

carrying forward the brilliant tradition of self-reliance, the eternal vitality of the state and motive force for its advance.

An opening ceremony of the national photo exhibition took place at the Okryu Exhibition House on February 2.

Present there were Jo Myong Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned and working people in Pyongyang.

Jo Myong Chol made an opening address.

At the end of the ceremony, the participants looked round the venue of the exhibition.



The participants in the opening ceremony look round the venue of the national photo exhibition.

Inaugurations take place across nation

KCNA

Sariwon Kye Ung Sang University of Agriculture remodelled



North Hwanghae Province renovated Sariwon Kye Ung Sang University of Agriculture.

The university has a school building, e-library, gymnasium and dormitory and other conditions and environment necessary for teaching and education, agricultural sci-tech research and students' study. Its successful renovation has made it possible to train larger numbers of sci-tech talents capable of spearheading the drive to implement the Workers' Party of Korea's programme for the rural

revolution in the new era and develop regional agriculture.

Its inauguration ceremony took place on January 30.

After the ceremony the participants looked round various parts of the university.

Earlier, Pak Chang Ho and other officials of the province went round the newly-built provincial agricultural management cadres training school to discuss the issues arising in training the primary officials of the rural areas into rural revolutionaries and competent persons possessed of advanced agricultural science and technology.

welfare service facilities, is another material and technical foundation for regional afforestation.

Its inauguration ceremony took place on January 30.

Choe Kyong Nam, chairman of the Kaesong

Municipal People's Committee, addressed the ceremony to be followed by speeches.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round various places of the tree nursery.

Kyongpho Children's Camp inaugurated in South Hamgyong Province

South Hamgyong Province has successfully built the Kyongpho Children's Camp at an excellent place on the coast of the East Sea.

The camp with a mosaic mural depicting the benevolent image of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un has camp buildings, a gym, bathing beach, dining hall, children's hall, general knowledge learning room, e-book reading room and video-game room.

An inauguration ceremony of the camp took place on February 2.

Pak Hyon Chol, chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, delivered an inauguration address.

After the ceremony was over, the participants looked round various places of the camp.

Members of the art group of the Hamhung Schoolchildren's Palace gave a congratulatory performance.



People's Art Festival to be held

KCNA

The Third People's Art Festival in Celebration of February 16 will be held in Pyongyang and other parts of the DPRK.

The festival marking the 84th birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il is a grand political and artistic festival of best wishes for immortality and praise for the great man. It will show the unshakable will and noble moral obligation of all the people to convey forever the noble revolutionary career and exploits of the Chairman, who devoted his whole life to the country and the people, and remain single-mindedly faithful to the leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers'

Party of Korea to usher in the era of the overall prosperity of Korean-style socialism more dynamically and courageously.

The festival is to be held at theatres and halls in the capital city and other parts of the country, including the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre and the Hamhung Grand Theatre, from February 13 to 18, divided into categories of mobile artistic motivational teams and art groups.

The festival venues will resound with hymns to the leader reflecting the thoughts and feelings of all the people as well as songs in praise of the vibrant era. The festival will bring together excellent organizations selected from all regions and units.

NEWS IN BRIEF

KCNA

Birthday spread sent to woman centenarian

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Kim Il Sun, a woman living in Neighbourhood Unit No. 24, Ungsang-dong, Sonbong District in Rason Municipality, on her 100th birthday.

Receiving the birthday spread amid the congratulations of villagers, the woman centenarian expressed her gratitude to Kim Jong Un, deeply moved by the benevolence of the motherly Workers' Party of Korea.

She, who was born into a poor peasant's family and had to experience the sorrow of a stateless nation before the liberation of Korea, had honestly worked at her revolutionary post for decades with a resolve to repay the benevolence of the Party which provided her with a genuine life and dignity.

She brought up her children

to be faithful to the country and has striven to do good things for the country even after becoming a pensioner.

Officials of the Sonbong District Party Committee visited her family to congratulate them on the auspicious event.

Ryonggang County Hospital opens

The Ryonggang County Hospital opened on February 1.

On hearing the news of the opening of the hospital, many residents in the county visited the hospital.

Guided by doctors and nurses, they went round the hospital equipped with all conditions for medical service in happiness.

Enjoying advanced medical service, they felt once again the ardent love and affection of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who saw to it that a modern hospital was built and wished them a happy life in a good place.

Students meet with heroes, war veteran

KCNA

In Nampho Municipality

Students in their final year at senior middle schools in Nampho Municipality met with heroes at the Nampho Municipal Art Theatre on February 1.

When the heroes entered the venue of the meeting, the students greeted them with bouquets.

After remarks of Labour Hero An Yun Dok and the mother of a soldier, DPRK Hero Ri Tong Guk handed the national flag of the DPRK over to the young people on behalf of the victorious

wartime generation.

Students took the floor and expressed their will to fortify the defence lines of the country impregably by inheriting the spirit of defending the country and the revolution displayed by the heroes of the preceding generation as well as the heroic service personnel involved in the overseas military operations.

The meeting was followed by a motivational performance of the schoolchildren's artistic information team.

In South Hwanghae Province

Schoolchildren in South Hwanghae Province met with a war veteran at the provincial art theatre on February 2.

Present there were officials of the youth league and schoolchildren in the province.

When the war veteran, Kim Myong Ho, entered the venue of the meeting, schoolchildren warmly welcomed him, presenting bouquets.

At the meeting, he handed over the national flag of the DPRK to schoolchildren in the name of the veteran generation, asking them to firmly carry forward the

victorious history of heroic Korea true to the leadership of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un.

Students took the floor to express their will to carry forward the baton of victory handed over by the victorious wartime generation and perform proud military feats on the road of national defence.

At the end of the meeting, a congratulatory performance was given by members of the schoolchildren's artistic information team.

Groundbreaking ceremonies of construction projects for regional development policy in 2026 held

KCNA

The third-year project for implementing the regional development policy in the new era is being conducted on a full scale according to the strategic decision and under the distinguished guidance of the great Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee opening up a new phase for socialist construction with regional transformation.

The regional construction for the new year has begun in Phyongwon County of South Phyongan Province, following Unnyul County, demonstrating the vitality and bright prospect of the Party's policy.

A groundbreaking ceremony of construction projects for the regional development policy took place in Phyongwon County



A groundbreaking ceremony of construction projects for the regional development policy takes place in Phyongwon County on January 31.

on January 31.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Ri Kyong Chol, chief secretary of the South Phyongan

Provincial Committee of the WPK, Ri Song Bom, chairman of the provincial people's committee, service personnel of the Korean People's Army involved in

the construction and officials and working people of the province and the county.

Pak Thae Song addressed the ceremony.

He referred to the fact

that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un indicated in detail the orientation and ways for implementing the expanded and deepened policy for regional development vigorously without letup.

He said that Kim Jong Un stressed again the intention of putting forward the regional development as a top priority task and an important political issue of the Party and the state and took revolutionary measures.

Then the commander of the 124th Regiment of the Korean People's Army made a speech.

The soldier-builders started the construction project, operating the construction equipment amid the excitement and joy of the residents of Phyongwon County.

The construction for the regional development policy in 2026 began with due ceremonies in the area of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm and Kangnam and Maengsan counties on February 3.

Present at the ceremonies were Ri Hi Yong, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Han Kwang Sang, department director of the Party Central Committee, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, chief secretaries of the provincial committees of the WPK, officials and working people in the relevant provinces, municipality and counties and service personnel.

Speeches were made at the groundbreaking ceremonies.

The speakers said that not only modern factories but also advanced medical facilities and multi-functional leisure complexes, whose experimental stage has successfully ended, are to be built in a simultaneous way in 20 areas in 2026.

Then the commanders of the 124th regiments of the Korean People's Army made speeches.

The soldier-builders driving construction

machinery began the construction in high spirits with enthusiasm for fulfilling their honourable duty as pioneers of transformation for the country and the people.

The residents of Ragwon County, which is widely known throughout the DPRK along with Ragwonpho associated with the legends of great love, have greeted another day of significant groundbreaking for the creation of assets of civilization and rejuvenation in their locality.

A groundbreaking ceremony of construction projects for regional development policy took place in the county on February 5.

Ri Jong Nam, chief secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, addressed the ceremony.

He said that nice regional-industry factories, a hospital and leisure complex would be built this year in Ragwon County where a splendid fishing village envied by the world was built thanks to the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts of the Party Central Committee which is determined to powerfully lead the new era of regional development toward an uninterrupted upturn.

A worthwhile and honourable struggle for creation, which is aimed at leading the gigantic transformation unprecedented in history to a fresh upsurge, is calling us, he said, appealing to everyone to take longer strides in the advance for the comprehensive development of the state by rallying more closely around the Party Central Committee with loyalty and patriotism so as to adorn this significant year with victories and glory.

After the commanding officer of a 124th regiment of the Korean People's Army made a speech, soldier-builders launched into construction, operating heavy machines.



Groundbreaking ceremonies of construction projects for the regional development policy are held in the area of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm and Kangnam and Maengsan counties on February 3 and in Ragwon County on February 5.

For peace and happiness of country and people

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The founding of the Korean People's Army on February 8 1948 was an event that proclaimed the birth of the revolutionary armed forces firmly defending the dignity and honour of the DPRK and its people.

Thanks to this historic event, the revolutionary armed forces could begin writing the history of reliably guaranteeing the ideology and cause of the Workers' Party of Korea, the existence and development of the country and the happiness of the people.

The KPA is the revolutionary armed forces firmly defending the dignity and sovereignty of the country against the hostile forces' moves for aggression.

It has resolutely foiled all manner of challenges and threats by the hostile forces wherever the sovereignty of the country is exercised, reliably defending the front line of the country.

This can be denied or done by no one in the present world where it is an everyday occurrence that national sovereignty and territory are mercilessly violated and bloodshed takes place due to the imperialists' policy of supremacy and violent moves of aggression.

The KPA is the creator of transformation and the defender of happiness which brings happiness to the people, regarding devoted service for them as its duty.

Since the beginning of the postwar

reconstruction in the 1950s when everything had been destroyed in the country, the building of a prosperous country has also been the army's primary revolutionary task, as important as defending the sovereignty of the country, and this task has never been lightened or deferred in any harsh and severe circumstances.

The metallurgical-industry bases and coal and ore mines, which constitute the foundation of the national economy, the railways and roads, which constitute the artery of the country, and the fertile farm fields, irrigation facilities and reclaimed tidelands—all the projects for development and creation carried out throughout the country are associated with the exploits of the army.

This is not all.

KPA service personnel have been forerunners in performing great feats who have made breakthroughs at any time and in any place, including those who, with a sacred mission of defending the people, successfully carried out the operations to save the lives of the people isolated by flood and transformed the afflicted areas.

The beautiful dreams and ideals of the people keep coming true as the KPA's honourable colours keep vigorously fluttering throughout the country, calling for a fresh upswing.

The respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un set forth the militant tasks of the KPA at major meetings including the plenary meetings of the Party Central

Committee and energetically led the struggle to carry them out. He visited the Ministry of National Defence on the occasion of the Day of Army Founding to indicate the road ahead of the KPA, personally attended the meetings of the entire army to lay down the guidelines for making the revolutionary armed forces the most elite and powerful ones and guided the drills under the simulated conditions of an actual war on the spot to instil matchless strength and courage into the service personnel.

Korean-style socialism will advance steadily thanks to the KPA which is firmly defending the peace and happiness of the country and the people, regarding the General Secretary's leadership as its lifeblood.

National defence capability bolstered up uninterruptedly

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The true features of the Korean People's Army are being further highlighted

along with the new era when a golden age of bolstering up military capabilities is being ushered in.

The KPA has undergone rapid

development as the revolutionary armed forces with a powerful treasured sword during the past ten-odd years.

Thanks to the tireless efforts

and devotion of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who energetically led the development of strategic weapons of the DPRK, the hydrogen bomb test, test-fire of various attack means and nuclear warhead explosion test were conducted successfully, the policy on the state nuclear force was legalized and Korean-style weapon systems were developed in succession, including ICBMs Hwasongpho-14 and Hwasongpho-15, the Pukkuksong weapon system as a powerful attack means capable of accurately and quickly carrying out strategic strike missions in any space under water and on the ground and the new-type ICBMs Hwasongpho-17 and Hwasongpho-18 type weapon systems capable of carrying super-large heavy-weight nuclear warheads.

The tactical nuclear attack submarine, a Korean-style

underwater nuclear attack ship, was born to signal the start of a new chapter in bolstering up the naval force and the successful launch of a reconnaissance satellite enabled the DPRK armed forces to secure the capability of resolutely controlling any nuclear threat while possessing both the "eyes" to look over a very long distance and the strong "fist" to beat a very long distance.

The military capabilities of the DPRK armed forces were further strengthened by the development of Hwasongpho-16B, a new-type intermediate-range solid-fuelled ballistic missile, the submarine-launched strategic cruise missile Pulhwasal-3-31, the 600mm super-large multiple rocket, suicide attack drones of various types, the most perfect weapon system of latest ICBM Hwasongpho-19 and a new-type intermediate-range hypersonic ballistic missile and the launch of a new-type multi-mission destroyer.

The military hardware exhibition Defence Development-2025, which can be said to be the epitome of the development of the country's defence science and technology and munitions industry, comprehensively showed the extent to which its defence capabilities have developed.

As shown by the successful test-fire conducted on January 27 to verify the effectiveness of a large-calibre multiple rocket launcher system upgraded with a new technology, the defence capabilities of the country have been strengthened continuously.



The entities of national defence capability of the DPRK.

Great golden age of construction brings great transformation (2)

Not only capital but all other parts of the country undergo transformation during term of Eighth Central Committee of the WPK



City of Samjiyon, a modern mountain city.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in December 2021 put forward a plan for bringing about a new revolution in construction to continue to carry on the heyday of construction in the capital, open up an era of regional changes and radically improve the living environment of the people across the country in the coming 20-30 years.

The Second Grand Short Course of Officials in the Construction Sector was run

in February 2022.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent to the participants in the course an important letter "Let Us Lead the Development of Civilization of Our Own Style of Socialism by Waging a New Revolution in Construction".

The letter clarified the issue of forming a mountain gorge city, a cultured mining town, with houses in distinctive styles in the Komdok area, while building 50 000 modern flats in Pyongyang, and vigorously pushing ahead with the housing construction in provinces, cities and counties

on an annual basis as decided by the WPK Congress and that of building a larger number of modern educational and public health facilities.

It also detailed the issue of building cultural recreation grounds and tourist resorts for the people in the celebrated mountains and scenic spots across the country to blend in so well with the beautiful natural scenery, continuously creating parks and recreation grounds peculiar to towns and villages throughout the country and adding more modern service facilities to them and others.

It served as a great programme which should be

followed to bring about a new revolution in construction.

The tremendous changes which have taken place in the City of Samjiyon, called the highest village under the sky, can be claimed to be the epitome of the WPK's grand plan to give the country a facelift by bringing about a new radical turn in construction.

In retrospect, the respected General Secretary decided to build the then Samjiyon County with Mt Paektu, where the Korean revolution started, as the perfect one in the world and the richest county in the country and transform the whole country with it as an

example, and energetically led the project to spruce up the Samjiyon area.

He examined more than 8 800 formation plans and gave field guidance over the project several times in 2018 alone.

While visiting the City of Samjiyon in November 2021, he proudly reviewed the successful implementation of the four-year construction project of the City of Samjiyon as planned and intended by the Party, and gave detailed instructions on the issues arising in developing the Samjiyon area more splendidly as a destination of study tour of

revolutionary battle sites and tourist resort, including the issues of flawlessly paving the roads in the city in line with the changes in the living environment of the city and additionally building hotels.

On his visit to Samjiyon in July 2024 again, he made the rounds of several places of the area and unveiled the plan to develop it into a model mountainous city in the northern part of the country, a combined mountain tourist resort of a distinctive style and a four-season mountain tourist destination in order to satisfy the cultural and

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Houses built in a flood-hit area of North Phyongan Province.



Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area in the evening.

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emotional demands of the people on the highest level. He said that Mother Nature in the Mt Paektu area consisting of primeval forests and mountains is the valuable resources of the country to be proud of, a tourist and cultural zone of Mt Paektu should be built wonderfully to become a favourite haunt of the local and world people and it should be ensured that tourism industry serves as a major driving force of regional development.

In December last year modern hotels were inaugurated in the City of Samjiyon.

That day, he went round the Ikal and Milyong hotels and expressed his will to more wonderfully turn the City of Samjiyon into an innovative, civilized city representing the country's tourism culture.

After setting an example of regional construction in the new era through the construction of the City of Samjiyon, the WPK brought about surprising changes in

the Komdok area, too.

In October 2020, a few months before the Eighth Congress of the WPK took place, the respected General Secretary visited the reconstruction site of the flood-hit Komdok area by train crossing a makeshift gorge railway bridge and unveiled a grandiose plan, calling for building there a mountain gorge city unprecedented in history.

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK and the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee, he stressed on several occasions the need to push ahead with the construction in the Komdok area as scheduled and indicated the concrete orientation and ways for building the houses in a qualitative way by focusing on ensuring their stability so that they would not suffer damage by any flood.

Every year ideal streets were built magnificently in the capital city of Pyongyang and agricultural workers became owners of new, modern houses in the rural

villages across the country. As if responding to this stirring reality, the Komdok area rose up as a mountain gorge city and mining town.

Following the reconstruction of the Komdok area, several disaster areas underwent a complete change, leaving no traces of their past.

As he went to the flood-stricken Sinuiju area in North Phyongan Province in July 2024 and matured a plan for relieving the sufferings of its inhabitants as early as possible while looking round the flooded area on board a small rubber boat, the respected General Secretary decided not to simply rebuild the afflicted areas, but transform them into model and textbook entities of urbanization, modernization and civilization of rural areas by turning a disaster brought by nature into a watershed in regional development.

As a result, the decision on rapidly repairing the flood damage in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces was adopted at the 22nd Emergency Enlarged

Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth WPK Central Committee held on the train which came to a halt in the flooded area.

The respected General Secretary took measures to dispatch the People's Army units and organize and send regiments of Party members to the flood-hit areas and personally saw off the young people leaving for the reconstruction in the afflicted area of North Phyongan Province, placing great trust in them as a special detachment sent by the Party.

And then he visited again and again the housing construction site in the rugged afflicted area and pointed out in detail problems arising in the construction such as landscaping and elevation planning.

As a result, new standards were established in the flood-hit areas from the city formation to every structure, road facility and illuminations and they were landscaped on a high level to go well with the mountainous areas.

Thanks to the new

revolution in construction, numerous earthly paradises hailed by the people sprang up across the country.

Many structures built in the great golden age of construction in the new era have successfully embodied modernity, convenience and aesthetic quality and more diverse spheres and realms of life have been steadily explored and developed, making the Korean people enjoyers and personification of the new civilization.

The Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, a leading coastal tourist town of national treasure value, was inaugurated and modern public service bases embodying practicality, diversity and formative and artistic value on a high level were built in the area of Mt Paektu, which has been developed into a distinctive mountain tourist complex and four-season mountain tourist resort.

The Hwasong area, whose development was planned and launched for the purpose of solving the housing

problem in the capital city of Pyongyang, has been provided with all structural elements and functions as a single administrative district of a city. An architectural group equipped with hot-spring cure and service facilities and comprehensive service bases on the highest level was built in an excellent place of Onpho with beautiful landscape and a holiday camp with another specific feature sprang up in the Yombunjin area, renowned as a scenic attraction on the east coast. And modern hospitals and leisure complexes built in the capital city and different parts of the country are praised as the palaces protecting the people's health and laughter.

All these are the precious fruits of the noble outlook on the people of the Workers' Party of Korea, which regards the people's laughter as the symbol of the socialist system, and the epitome portraying the looks of the state and people of the DPRK that will enter a new world of more advanced civilization in the near future.



Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp at night.

Farming villages liven up with moving into new houses



Several farms are enlivened by a happy event of moving into new houses.

KCNA
Modern farmhouses appeared in Jonsung-ri of Phyonggang County and Kachon-ri of Ichon County, Kangwon Province.

Ceremonies of moving into the new houses took place on the spot.

Present there were officials of the Party and power organs in the province and the counties, builders and agricultural workers.

Congratulatory addresses were made and licences for the use of new houses were handed over to be followed by resolution-making speeches.

The farmers began moving into new houses amid congratulatory art performances and cheerful dance parties.

Officials visited their families and encouraged

them to work harder for the benevolent Workers' Party of Korea and the socialist system.

Modern dwelling houses rose up at the Mandal Vegetable Farm in Sungho County and the Wahyon Farm in Phyongsan County of North Hwanghae Province.

Attending the ceremonies of moving into the new houses held on the spot respectively were officials of the province and counties, builders and agricultural workers.

Addresses were made and licences for the use of houses were handed over to be followed by speeches.

As they began moving into the new houses, farmers, residents and children danced to the tune of lively music with national flags and bouquets in their hands and the villages were in a festive mood.

Officials visited new houses to congratulate their owners and present them with household articles.

The modern houses built at the Woltang Farm in Sinwon County and the Rajinpho Farm in Yonan County of South Hwanghae Province tell about the great love of the motherly Workers' Party of Korea which intends to make the agricultural workers feel the joy of worthwhile life and work while enjoying socialist civilization to the full.

Attending the ceremonies of moving into new houses held on the spot respectively were officials of the province and the counties, builders and agricultural workers.

Addresses were made and licences for the use of houses were handed over to be followed by speeches.

Amid cheerful dance parties, officials

congratulated farmers on their moving into the modern houses.

Modern houses were built at the Kayang Farm in Unnyul County of South Hwanghae Province and the Kyejong Farm in Kumchon County and the Township Farm in Thosan County of North Hwanghae Province.

The dwelling houses, which were designed to ensure the convenience of the residents while preserving the characteristics of the regions and modernity, have living rooms, kitchens, bathrooms and stores. Trees of good species were planted around them.

Ceremonies of moving into new houses held on the spot were attended by officials of the Party and power organs in the provinces and regions, builders and agricultural workers who would move

into the new houses.

Congratulatory addresses were made and licences for the use of houses were conveyed at the ceremonies to be followed by speeches.

As farmers began moving into the new house amid cheerful dance parties, officials congratulated the working people upon moving into new houses and shared joy with them.

New public and production buildings appeared at the Taechong Farm in Unpha County of North Hwanghae Province, giving a facelift to the area.

At the farm with a mosaic mural depicting the benevolent image of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, a general office building, production buildings of workteams, an agricultural sci-tech learning space and a hall of culture

were newly built.

Besides, comprehensive welfare service facilities, a hospital, pharmacy, kindergarten, rice mill and others were built to provide locals with every condition and environment for convenience.

An inauguration ceremony took place on February 4.

Present there were Pak Chang Ho, chief secretary of the North Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of Party and power organs and working people in Unpha County and farmers of the Taechong Farm.

At the end of the ceremony the participants went round various places of the farm.

The county mobile artistic motivation team gave a congratulatory performance, revving up the inauguration mood.

Noteworthy event in DPRK's journey of conquering space

By Choe Song Jun PT

Ten years have passed since the earth observation satellite Kwangmyongsong 4 was successfully launched in the DPRK.

When Kwangmyongsong 4 soared into space on February 7 2016, the whole country seethed with excitement and delight.

Conquest of space—this is a dream of humankind and an essential task for hastening the future of prosperity and happiness.

Therefore, countries are setting ambitious goals for conquering space and persistently going on the arduous journey towards the unknown, faraway world.

The DPRK successfully sent into orbit its first application satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 in 2012.

With the successful launch of the operational satellite of which design, production, assembly, launch and observation were completed by the nation's own efforts, the DPRK joined the ranks of the application satellite possessors.

The space scientists were faced

with the tasks to develop and manufacture more satellites for different purposes and thus make a positive contribution to bolstering the national power, developing the economy and improving the people's living standards.

At that time, the world's advance to the universe became more intensive and its structure varied.

With an insight into the situation, General Secretary Kim Jong Un worked out a plan to put the country's space development on a new high stage and energetically led the work to carry it out.

Consequently, the DPRK Law on Space Development was promulgated, the then National Aerospace Development Administration was organized and the then satellite control centre was built to push ahead with the country's space development with vigour.

The General Secretary indicated the importance of the NADA's mission in implementing the plan of the Workers' Party of Korea for building a space power and illuminated all the issues arising in

the research into space science and satellite launch. He also guided the whole course of the preparations for the launch of the earth observation satellite Kwangmyongsong 4 on the spot and led it to a complete success.

Afterwards, the space scientists succeeded in the static test-firing of a new type of high-thrust motor for a geostationary satellite carrier rocket and in the launch of a reconnaissance satellite to bring great pleasure to the people.

Today, the country's forces of space science and technology have grown stronger, many scientific and technological problems arising in the control and operation of satellites have been solved, and the work for introducing the applied technologies to economic construction, improvement of the people's standard of living and buildup of the national defence capabilities is being pushed forward.

Under the wise leadership of the Party, greater progress and successes will be made in the DPRK's space development in future.

January full of high confidence and enthusiasm

By Kim Rye Yong PT

It seems like yesterday when all the Korean people celebrated the New Year with joy and happiness, but January already passed.

That much, they spent the days of January with fresh confidence and enthusiasm.

For a greater victory

The respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un in his speech at a New Year celebration called on all the Korean people to make another start full of confidence, saying that a more strenuous struggle and a greater victory are awaiting them, and has dynamically led this year's advance by conducting energetic revolutionary activities from the beginning of the year.

His journey of revolutionary activities continued throughout the month. He visited the construction site of the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm, which has become a theatre of activities of the Korean young people to perform feats, provided field guidance over the important affairs in the field of national defence to protect the country's sovereignty and security, the work for adding lustre to the heroic feats of war martyrs in the overseas military operations and the fourth-stage construction project in the Hwasong area nearing completion, and attended the conference in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, the inaugurations of the first-stage modernization project at the Ryongsong Machine Complex and the Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp and the groundbreaking ceremony of the construction projects for the regional development policy in Unnyul County.

The news about his revolutionary activities grabbed the headlines for over 10 times.

The revolutionary leadership of the respected General Secretary, who devotes his all to making the Korean people the happiest in the world and building the country into the most powerful country in the world, enormously boosted confidence in a greater victory and courage of the Korean people.

Unprecedented revolutionary zeal

Probably the "Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea" was most often spoken by the working people in January.

In every workplace a day's work began with an appeal for the working people to bring about a surge in production on the occasion of the Ninth Congress of the WPK and they made redoubled efforts to perform greater labour feats as gifts to the Congress.

When the Musan Mining Complex, a leading iron ore producer, got off to a good start in the new year with a blasting of 1 million cubic metres of earth and increased production every day, an all-out offensive was mounted to complete the huge construction project at the construction site of 50 000 flats in the capital city of Pyongyang.

Cement production bases across the country overfulfilled their January production plans and coal mines, iron and steel producers, machine-building bases and large chemical industrial bases also made achievements one after another.

Farms across the country also conducted a vigorous campaign to carry more manure to the fields, making elaborate preparations for farming this year, ranging from farms in granaries to the plots of those in mountainous counties and the highlands.

A large-scale blasting for expanding the land of the country was successfully carried out at a tideland reclamation site in North Phyongan Province.

According to an official of the State Planning Commission, never before had there been such enormous successes in succession in all sectors as those in January this year in the long history of the country.

Many young people volunteered to work at coal and ore mines, construction sites and farms in all parts of the country and housewives and old people also did good things for the country voluntarily with patriotic enthusiasm.

The passionate enthusiasm of the Korean people in January, which cannot be compared to that in the past, was the dynamic first step towards glorifying the year 2026 along the path to be indicated by the Ninth Congress of the WPK.

For wetland protection



Jo Kuk Hyon

Staffer of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea

February 2 is World Wetlands Day.

Wetlands are of great significance from the viewpoint of biodiversity and in various aspects of human life, as they have plenty of water indispensable for the existence and activities of life.

They also play a big role in maintaining natural ecosystems because of their natural cleansing function and water circulation system.

They control flooding and drought, take an important position in forming freshwater, and connect terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

Wetlands are capable of storing more carbon than forests, and thus play an important role in reducing carbon emissions and ensuring the improvement of the locals' life.

According to data, 60% of global population live in coastal areas,

and more than 1 billion people earn income from fishing, aquaculture and wetland tourism.

Because of their roles, wetlands are called the infrastructure of the earth, the kidney of nature and the source of life and culture.

On February 2 1971, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, known as the "Convention on Wetlands" was adopted in Ramsar, Iran. The UN General Assembly held in 2021 set February 2 as World Wetlands Day.

Various events for the protection of wetlands take place worldwide on World Wetlands Day every year.

The DPRK has long made positive efforts to protect and sustainably use wetland resources.

It enacted different laws and regulations, including the laws on environmental protection, nature

reserve and river, thus establishing a legal framework for the protection of wetlands.

It also selected many reserves, including the Mundok, Sindo, Kumya, Rason and Kangnyong migratory bird (wetland) reserves, and conducts various activities to preserve and manage them better.

According to survey results, many species of rare or endangered migratory birds in the world inhabit the DPRK's wetlands as their major habitats.

The Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea, in cooperation with foreign environmental protection organizations, made a plan to intensify a joint survey of the ecology of migratory birds in wetland reserves on the east and west coasts of the country, stopover points and habitats of the birds, and has conducted information and various other activities for protecting wetlands.

The theme of World Wetlands Day in 2026 is "Wetlands and traditional knowledge: Celebrating cultural heritage".

BYWORD

Scientific farming-first principle

The agricultural sector of the DPRK works hard to thoroughly apply the scientific farming-first principle.

All the farmers are deeply aware that the scientific farming-first principle is the

basic way to produce high and stable yields in the face of unfavourable abnormal weather conditions.

They are getting more enthusiastic about doing farming by relying on science and technology,

not on experience.

The number of farmers enrolled on the online education system is on the increase and dynamic efforts are being made to put agricultural production on a scientific and

modern basis through the introduction of advanced farming methods and techniques, the realization of agricultural informatization and the increase of the rate of mechanization.

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Jijang Peak in Mt Myohyang in winter

Top 10 players of DPRK for 2025 (2)

By Kim Hak Chol PT

With overwhelming superiority
O Kyong Ryong, Merited Athlete and wrestler of the Pyongyang Sports Club, was born into a farmer's family in Jongju City of North Pyongan Province.

She learned the ABC of wrestling at Jongju City Extracurricular Sports School and acquired its basic techniques at the extracurricular sports school of the Pyongyang Sports Club. Later, she started her wrestling career at the club, where she has improved her physical and technical abilities.

At international games, she fully displayed her abilities which she had built up with unflagging enthusiasm, without resting on her laurels.

O Kyong Ryong made her

international debut at the then Asian Juvenile Wrestling Championship in 2015, winning a gold medal.

In particular, she beat her opponents with a commanding lead at the international games held last year.

She defeated her rival 8-1 in the final match to take first place in the 55kg category of women's wrestling at the 2025 Asian Wrestling Championship. She also beat her opponents 12-0 in the preliminary, 14-7 in the quarterfinal, by a fall in the semi-final and 10-0 in the final in the 55kg women's wrestling category of the 2025 World Wrestling Championship, thereby standing on the winners' podium.

As a result, she was selected as one of the top 10



O Kyong Ryong Han Chong Song Won Myong Gyong

players of the DPRK for the year.

Winning Asian and world championships in one year

Merited Athlete Han Chong Song is a wrestler of the April 25 Combat Sports Team.

Born and brought up in Hangu District of Nampho Municipality, he was originally interested in Taekwon-Do, a Korean orthodox martial art.

Later, Han began to learn

wrestling at Waudo District Extracurricular Sports School and steadily built up his ability.

He distinguished himself in domestic competitions including the national games of sports schools in 2015 to draw the attention of experts and achieved good results in the 19th Asian Games in 2023.

Han won a gold medal at the 37th CISM World Military Wrestling Championship

in 2024 and also took first place at both the 2025 Asian Wrestling Championship and the 2025 World Wrestling Championship.

Only on straight course of victory

Won Myong Gyong, wrestler of the Jangsan Sports Club, was born in Sinam District of Chongjin City, North Hamgyong Province.

It is said that when she began to learn wrestling, some worried that she would fail as she was so small in build and stature.

But she strived to prove herself.

Once the training goal was set, she never left the training ground before attaining it.

Her astonishing persevering fighting spirit of never succumbing to difficulties and energetic

efforts put her on the track of success.

She made her international debut at the then Asian Juvenile Wrestling Championship in 2016 to win the women's 40kg-category wrestling event and came third in the women's 50kg category of both the 2019 Asian Junior Wrestling Championship and the 2025 Asian Wrestling Championship.

Won Myong Gyong made more exacting demands on herself to improve her playing ability, thus emerging as a world champion in less than six months.

She won a gold medal in the women's 50kg category of the 2025 World Wrestling Championship by defeating all the opponents she had confronted at the 2025 Asian Wrestling Championship.

DPRK players successful at int'l contest

KCNA

DPRK players returned home after taking part in the 2026 International Freestyle Wrestling Tournament "Ivan Yarygin Cup" held in Krasnoyarsk, Russia.

The tournament brought together more than 500 men and women players from over 20 countries including the DPRK, Russia, Mongolia and Uzbekistan. DPRK players won eight medals including five gold medals.

Won Myong Gyong, Choe Hyo Gyong, Son Il Sim, Kim Ok Ju and Pak Sol Gum took first places and won gold medals respectively in the women's wrestling 50kg, 53kg, 57kg, 62kg and 68kg categories.

O Kyong Ryong and Hong Pyol were placed second in the women's wrestling 53kg and 57kg categories and Han Chong Song came third in freestyle wrestling 57kg category.

The players, who returned home after bringing honour to the country, were greeted

at Pyongyang International Airport by officials in the field of sports, sportspersons and their families on February 4.



Natural monument Sangwonam ginkgo

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Sangwonam ginkgo is a staminate tree in the front yard of Sangwon Hermitage belonging to the Pohyon Temple in Mt Myohyang.

It stands alongside the Myohyangsan pine tree, another natural monument. It is said that the

seedling of the ginkgo was planted and grown by a monk who lived there in around 1895.

The trunk has cracks and the bark is light grey.

As the tree grows at the highest place among the ginkgos living in the DPRK, it is of great significance in the study of the limit of vertical distribution of this species.

